

Information on Safe Routes To School projects Prior to the Call For Applications

(This is not the SRTS application!)

In general: Projects will be ranked higher for the greater number of the “five Es” that they include (see definitions below).

Implementation: Projects will be ranked higher if they are ready to proceed in the current school year and can be accomplished expeditiously.

Partners: Projects will be ranked higher if they leverage more, rather than fewer, partners in designing and implementing the project. Remember that since the Safe Routes to School program cannot permit any financial match from applicants, any project partners (during the SRTS phase of your overall project) must be in-kind only. Following are some examples of appropriate projects and creative in-kind support. Note: this is not an exhaustive list – just examples from other SRTS programs across the country.

Example A

The construction of a sidewalk from a local elementary school to an adjacent mobile home park, creating a new and safe route for more than seventy-five students to either walk or bike to school. The regional health department will partner with the elementary school to create a walking school bus initiative as well as educate students on the importance of safety and living a healthy lifestyle. Funds also will be used to purchase educational materials and bike racks to encourage students to walk and bicycle to and from school thus creating a safer, healthier environment for students.

Example B

An elementary school received new pedestrian crossing lights and crosswalks, a sidewalk extension, new school zone signs, and bicycle storage at the school complex. The school also will implement bicycle safety education presentations and walking school buses.

Example C

This project will help fill in gaps in the city's existing sidewalk grid along four neighborhood and collector streets surrounding a middle school and three elementary schools. In partnership with the schools, the city police department will train and educate students about the health benefits and safety considerations of walking and biking to and from school. Funds will be used for training individuals to establish a local Safe Routes to School program including a walking school bus program. The police department will also conduct direct traffic enforcement in the area of the schools and the new sidewalks.

Example D

The project includes the planning, design and construction of a half-mile multi-use path connecting a local middle school to trails and greenways along a collector street and to nearby housing. Funding will also be used to develop a student walker/biker identification system for more than 250 students, training for volunteers, and special safety days to encourage and educate students. The project will be a joint partnership between the district health department, the city citizen information & assistance department, city public works department, the city-county planning commission, and the city-county greenways commission. The funds will be used for educational activities including classroom instruction, training for volunteers at each school and public awareness campaigns.

Example E

This project includes the installation of a crossing on Main Street and a U.S. Highway, sidewalk construction along a major collector street, sidewalk renovations along another major collector, and crosswalk striping and traffic signs throughout. Partners include the Family Resource Center of a local elementary school, through which educational programs will be administered. The elementary will collaborate with the school district resource officer and the city police department to provide safety crossing-guards and SRTS training.

The “Five Es”

Engineering – Creating operational and physical improvements to the infrastructure surrounding schools that reduce vehicle speeds, reduce potential conflicts between motor vehicles and students who walk/bike to school, establish safer and fully accessible crossings, walkways, trails, and bikeways, and are fully accessible to *all* users.

Education – Teaching children and parents about wise transportation and safety choices with instruction focused on creating lifelong bicycling and walking safety skills.

Enforcement – Partnering with local law enforcement agencies to ensure that traffic laws are obeyed in the vicinity of schools – including speed limits, yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks, and proper bicycling and walking behaviors. Community enforcement efforts might include crossing guard training programs.

Encouragement – Using events, activities, and educational giveaways to promote bicycling and walking.

Evaluation – Monitoring and documenting outcomes and trends by collecting data before and after the SRTS project has begun.

Examples of Successful Safe Routes To School Projects

The following are examples of real projects submitted to other state Safe Routes programs. They are listed with the same components with which they were submitted.

Example 1

Infrastructure:

- Construct sidewalks from an elementary school to an adjacent mobile home park
- Install bike racks

Non-infrastructure:

- Create a walking school bus initiative
- Educate students on the importance of safety and living a healthy lifestyle
- Encourage students to walk and bicycle to and from school
- Purchase and distribute educational materials

Partners: Regional health department

Example 2

Infrastructure:

- Install the following:
 - New pedestrian crossing lights and crosswalks
 - Sidewalk extension
 - New school zone signs
 - Bicycle storage

Non-infrastructure:

- Implement bicycle safety education presentations
- Establish walking school buses

Example 3

Infrastructure:

- Fill in gaps in the city's existing sidewalk grid surrounding a middle school and three elementary schools

Non-infrastructure:

- Train and educate students about the health benefits and safety considerations of walking and biking to and from school
- Train individuals to establish a local Safe Routes to School program

- Create a walking school bus program
- Conduct direct traffic enforcement at and near the schools

Partners: City police department

Example 4

Infrastructure:

- Plan, design, and construct a half-mile multi-use path connecting a local middle school to trails and greenways and to nearby housing

Non-infrastructure:

- Develop a student walker/bicyclist identification system
- Train volunteers to assist with walker/bicyclist education and activities
- Offer special safety days to encourage and educate students
- Provide classroom instruction and public awareness campaigns

Partners: district health department, city citizen information & assistance department, city public works department, city-county planning commission, and the city-county greenways commission

Example 5

Infrastructure:

- Install the following:
 - Crosswalk at the intersection of a collector street and a U.S. highway
 - Sidewalk along a major collector street and other sidewalk renovations
 - Crosswalk striping
 - Traffic signs

Non-infrastructure:

- Administer educational programs
- Provide safety crossing-guards and SRTS training

Partners: Family Resource Center of a local elementary school, school district resource officer, and the city police department

Example 6

Infrastructure:

- Install the following:

- Continuous sidewalks along a collector street
- Install a crossing signal at the mid-block crosswalk in front of the school
- Install driver speed feedback display signs
- Bike lane striping and signage on 41st Street

Non-infrastructure:

- Increase speed enforcement
- Form a Walk/Bike to School steering committee
- Provide safety and physical activity education and encouragement programs

Example 7

Infrastructure:

- Install the following:
 - Sidewalks along a street adjacent to the school
 - A crossing of a railroad mainline
 - A walking/biking trail

Non-infrastructure:

- School district develops a Walk Route Plan
- Bicycle officer patrols the designated route before and after school
- Parents and the community engage in a safety education program that includes a railroad safety curriculum

Partners: City government

Example 8

Infrastructure:

- Install low cost traffic safety improvements on urban roads near the school

Non-infrastructure:

- School site evaluation element designed by recognized leaders in safety research and involving students in measurement and assessment
- Walking School Bus program coordinated by a part time staff person
- Education program led by parents and teachers
- Encouragement efforts coordinated with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Partners: Parents, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Example 9

Infrastructure:

- Construct a multi-use path connecting four schools and a new housing development to the schools, library and swimming pool

Non-infrastructure:

- Conduct bicycle safety education
- Increase traffic speed enforcement

Partners: Local law enforcement

Example 10

Infrastructure:

- Upgrade bicycle/pedestrian signage along the route

Non-infrastructure:

- Encourage an active, safe and healthy alternative to driving neighborhood children to school through an innovative education and enforcement program
- Organize Walk to School events, activities, and safety outreach

Example 11

Infrastructure:

- Construct a multi-use path

Non-infrastructure:

- Establish a committee of parents and educators to host a series of safety and physical activity education and promotional activities

Example 12

Infrastructure:

- Install traffic safety improvements including pathways
- Install a crossing on a major arterial street

Non-infrastructure:

- Add police enforcement
- Initiate a pedestrian safety education campaign
- Develop and distribute maps of the pathway system

Partners: School district and city government

Example 13

Infrastructure:

- Construct a bicycle and pedestrian overpass

Non-infrastructure:

- Conduct a railway safety education program
- Conduct a general pedestrian safety program

Partners: Local law enforcement

Example 14

Infrastructure:

- Connect sidewalks along the main walking and biking route

Non-infrastructure:

- Improve speed enforcement by local police
- Implement a school-wide safety education curriculum

Partners: Safe Kids Coalition

Example 16

Infrastructure:

- Install the following:
 - Sidewalks along key walk routes
 - Traffic calming measures (speed humps, etc.)
 - Pedestrian-scale lighting
 - Traffic safety signage

Non-infrastructure:

- Implement a student safety education program

Partners: Health, planning, and police departments of Native American tribe

List of Local SRTS Coordinators

Contact these individuals to inquire about existing local SRTS projects and how to apply for state SRTS funding.

Arizona Native American Tribes	Esther Corbett	(602) 307-1564
Avondale	Kelly LaRosa	(623) 478-3285
Bisbee	Dick Schaffer	(520) 432-9332
Casa Grande	Jim Thompson	(520) 421-8600
Chandler	Mike Normand	(480) 782-3441
Chino Valley	Ron Grittman	(928) 636-7140
Flagstaff	Martin Ince	(928) 226-4850
Gilbert	Tami Ryall	(480) 503-6765
Glendale	Sandy Adams	(623) 930-2032
Holbrook	Mary Koury	(928) 524-6144
Kingman	Pete Johnson	(928) 753-8102
Lake Havasu City	Richard Kaffenberger	(928) 453-4141
Litchfield Park	Mike Cartsonis	(623) 935-5033
Mesa	Jean DeStories	(480) 644-3398
Nogales	Manuel Tapia	(520) 285-5753
Page	Diane Hansen	(928) 608-4116
Parker	Lori Wedemeyer	(928) 669-9265
Payson	Fred Carpenter	(928) 474-5242 x 262
Peoria	Brandon Forrey	(623) 773-7201
Phoenix	Don Cross	(602) 534-2020
Pima County	Donna Lewandowski	(520) 205-8309
Pinal County	Kathy Borquez	(520) 866-6406
Prescott	Sue Knaup	(928) 541-9841
Prescott Valley	Robin Birnbaum	(928) 759-3136
Queen Creek	Bill Birdwell	(480) 358-3144
Safford	Bill Harmon	(928) 428-5470
Scottsdale	Dawn Coomer	(480) 312-7637
Sedona	Karen Dansby	(928) 204-9448
Sierra Vista	Ryan Kooi	(520) 458-5775
Tempe	Tanya Chavez	(480) 858-2215
Tucson	Melissa Antol	(520) 791-4371
Verde Valley area	Randy Victory	(928) 649-9533
Winslow	Bob Mansell	(928) 288-8101
Yavapai County	Patrick Gorlick	(928) 567-2246
Yuma	Fred Orcutt	(928) 373-4523

The National Center for Safe Routes To School maintains a toll-free number [(866) 610-SRTS] and a web site [www.saferoutesinfo.org] for questions and additional resources.

